

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI
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SUBJECT: TRANSCRIPT OF AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE SCHAUFLELE'S
SFRC TESTIMONY

1. DRAFT TRANSCRIPT OF AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE SCHAUFLELE'S
TESTIMONY IN CONFIRMATION HEARING BEFORE SENATE FOREIGN
RELATIONS COMMITTEE JULY 12, WHICH WAS RECEIVED FOR REVIEW
BY DEPARTMENT FROM SFRC JULY 15, CONTAINED NUMBER OF ERRORS
AND OMISSIONS. THESE HAVE BEEN CORRECTED BY DEPARTMENT IN
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TION IN HEARING RECORD. TRANSCRIPT IS UNOFFICIAL AND
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BEGIN TEXT:

SENATOR JAVITS. MR. CHAIRMAN, BEFORE THE FIRST WITNESS STARTS, MAY I SAY THAT I AT THIS TIME HAVE TO GO TO A CONFERENCE ON A BILL. BUT I FIND MYSELF VERY MUCH IN FAVOR OF ALL THE NOMINEES. I WOULD LIKE TO CALL SPECIAL ATTENTION TO BILL SCHAUFLE, WITH WHOM I HAVE WORKED, AND WHO IS TO BE OUR AMBASSADOR TO GREECE. THIS IS VERY SENSITIVE POST WHICH I THINK HE CAN HANDLE VERY WELL. ALSO I WANT TO MENTION GERARD SMITH, WHOM I AM DELIGHTED TO SEE BACK ON THE PAYROLL, AS IT WERE, IN THE VERY UNIQUE POSITION TO WHICH HE HAS BEEN NOMINATED, CONCERNING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, NONPROLIFERATION, AND SO ON. MY STAFF HAS HIGHLY COMMENDED TO ME LARRY PEZZULLO, WHO IS GOING TO URUGUAY, AS A VERY SEASONED FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER WITH VERY LONG EXPERIENCE IN LATIN AMERICA. HE IS A VERY SPLENDID MAN IN EVERY WAY. THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. THE CHAIRMAN. THANK YOU, SENATOR JAVITS. MR. SCHAUFLE, WE HAVE HAD YOU BEFORE THIS COMMITTEE PREVIOUSLY AND WE SENT YOU OUT ON A MISSION. I THINK EVERYONE MUST FEEL THAT YOU HAVE DONE A VERY GOOD JOB IN THE PAST. THAT IS THE BEST RECOMMENDATION.

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PROBABLY FOR YOUR PRESENT APPOINTMENT. HAVE YOU SERVED IN THIS GENERAL TERRITORY PREVIOUSLY? YOU ARE GOING TO GREECE, ARE YOU NOT? AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE. YES, SIR. I HAVE NOT SERVED IN THE AREA, SENATOR. I HAVE VISITED THERE. WHEN I WAS ONE OF OUR AMBASSADORS AT THE US MISSION IN THE UN *OR FOUR YEARS I WORKED IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON THE CYPRUS ISSUE IN GREAT DETAIL. THAT IS WHERE I HAVE GOTTEN MOST OF MY EXPERIENCE REGARDING GREECE. THE CHAIRMAN. YOU KNOW THAT THERE HAS BEEN A LITTLE ROUGH TIME OUT IN THAT AREA IN RECENT MONTHS. THE PRESIDENT SENT CLARK CLIFFORD OUT PRIMARILY ON THE CYPRUS SITUATION. YOU FOLLOWED HIS WORK OUT THERE, DID YOU NOT? AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE. YES, SENATOR, I DID. THE CHAIRMAN. AND HIS REPORT BACK? AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE. YES, INDEED. THE CHAIRMAN. DO YOU FEEL THAT ANY PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE TOWARD SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS SITUATION? AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE. PROGRESS ON THE CYPRUS ISSUE SEEMS TO COME VERY SLOWLY. MR. CLIFFORD'S TRIP WAS, I THINK, A VERY USEFUL ONE. THAT PARTICULAR PROCESS IS IN A KIND OF SUSPENSION BECAUSE OF THE TURKISH ELECTIONS AND THE SUBSEQUENT COMPLEXITIES OF FORMING A TURKISH GOVERNMENT. THAT PROCESS IN ANKARA IS STILL GOING ON, AND UNTIL

THERE IS A RESOLUTION THERE, NEW EFFORTS TOWARD RESOLVING THE CYPRUS DISPUTE ARE LIKELY TO REMAIN SUSPENDED. BUT I SUSPECT THAT THEY WILL BE RESUMED SOMETIME THIS FALL. THE CHAIRMAN. THAT WAS CLARK CLIFFORD'S RECOMMENDATION, WAS IT NOT -- AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELLE. YES, SIR, IT WAS. THE CHAIRMAN. PROBABLY, AS YOU SAY, IN THE FALL THE TALKS WOULD BE RESUMED. ARE YOU OPTIMISTIC OVER THIS? AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELLE. I WOULD NOT BE IN THIS BUSINESS IF I WERE NOT

OPTIMISTIC. IT IS AN ISSUE OF GREAT EMOTION AND THE LONG-ER SUCH ISSUES CONTINUE, THEY OFTEN SEEM MORE DIFFICULT TO SOLVE. BUT I AM ESSENTIALLY OPTIMISTIC. I THINK THAT IT CAN BE RESOLVED. I THINK THE SITUATION NOW IS MUCH BETTER THAN IT WAS TWO YEARS AGO WHEN I LEFT THE US MISSION TO THE UNCLASSIFIED

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UNITED NATIONS. I THINK THERE IS MORE WILLINGNESS TO ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM IN A SERIOUS WAY. THE CHAIRMAN. SENATOR CASE. SENATOR CASE. MR. SCHAUFELLE, WE ARE DELIGHTED TO SEE YOU HERE AGAIN. WE HOPE THAT YOUR TAKING THIS POST WON'T MEAN THAT WE WILL SEE VERY MUCH LESS OF YOU, AS WE COUNT ON YOUR ADVICE AND YOUR COUNSELLING VERY HEAVILY. WE WISH YOU WELL. I CANNOT IMAGINE ANYBODY GOING TO THIS TOUGH SPOT WHO IS LIKELY TO BRING IT OFF BETTER THAN YOU. GOOD LUCK. THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. THE CHAIRMAN. SENATOR PELL. SENATOR PELL. THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. MR. SCHAUFELLE, YOU ARE GOING TO A PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE SPOT WHERE PERSONALITIES PLAY SUCH A ROLE AND PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS PLAY SUCH A ROLE. THIS IS A DIFFICULT POSITION, WHERE THE GREEK CITIZENRY HAVE NOT YET LOST SIGHT OF THE FACT THAT WE DID NOTHING TO BRING DOWN THE JUNTA IN ALL THE YEARS THAT THAT CRUEL REGIME WAS THERE. SO, YOU HAVE THAT BURDEN ON YOUR SHOULDERS.

I WISH YOU WELL. I HAVE A PARTICULAR INTEREST IN GREECE AND LOOK FORWARD TO FOLLOWING YOUR WORK THERE AND PERHAPS TO BEING THERE BEFORE TOO LONG.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELLE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SENATOR. YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

THE CHAIRMAN. SENATOR STONE.

SENATOR STONE. THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.

IS IT YOUR FEELING, MR. AMBASSADOR, THAT THE GREEK SIDE OF THE ISSUE NEEDS TO BE SUSPENDED IN THE EXPLORATIONS FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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NEGOTIATIONS, OR THAT THAT CAN NOW PROCEED AS WELL, THAT THAT COULD PROCEED EVEN THOUGH THE TURKISH GOVERNMENTAL LEADERSHIP ISSUE HAS NOT YET BEEN SOLVED?

AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELLE. SENATOR, WE OBVIOUSLY CONTINUE TO PURSUE OUR TALKS WITH BOTH THE GREEKS AND THE TURKS, AS WELL AS THE CYPRIOTS AND THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED NATIONS. WHAT I WAS SPECIFICALLY REFERRING TO IS THE FACT THAT SINCE THERE IS NO TURKISH GOVERNMENT WHICH HAS RESULTED FROM THE ELECTIONS, BUT ONLY A CARETAKER GOVERNMENT, WE WILL HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT ATTITUDE A NEW TURKISH GOV-

ERNMENT WILL BE TAKING UNDER THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

SENATOR STONE. WHY WOULD IT BE INAPPROPRIATE, FOR EXAMPLE, TO CONTINUE TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION WITH THE FACTIONAL LEADERS IN TURKEY? THERE ARE THREE OR FOUR MAIN FACTIONAL LEADERS, AND WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT DERIVES FROM ANY TWO OF THE THREE DOES NOT OVERCOME THE NECESSITY FOR OBTAINING THE APPROVAL, OR AT LEAST THE PASSIVE APPROVAL OF ALL THREE OR FOUR, ISN'T THAT TRUE?

AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELLE. THERE IS CERTAINLY NO OBJECTION TO THAT AND I ASSUME THAT OUR EMBASSY IN ANKARA IS IN CONTACT WITH ALL THE FACTIONS IN TURKEY. CERTAINLY THE UNITED NATIONS HAS KEPT UP ITS CONTACTS WITH THE VARIOUS RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS.

SENATOR STONE. WHAT IS THE SITUATION ON THE OIL EXPLORATIONS IN THE AEGEAN AND WHAT IS THE SITUATION ON THE ARMING OR CHANGE IN DEFENSE CAPABILITIES ON THE ISLANDS?

AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELLE. THERE HAS BEEN VERY LITTLE CHANGE RECENTLY. THERE HAVE BEEN NO FURTHER INCIDENTS IN THE AEGEAN. THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE CONTINUED TO TRADE CHARGES REGARDING THEIR RELATIVE DEFENSE CAPABILITIES AND INSTALL-

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LATIONS IN THE AEGEAN AREA. BUT ACTUALLY THERE HAS BEEN NO FURTHER DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY ON THE AEGEAN QUESTION SINCE THE MEETING THAT WAS HELD JUST BEFORE THE TURKISH ELECTIONS. WE ANTICIPATE THAT THERE WILL BE FURTHER MEETINGS AS SOON AS THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT AGAIN IS INSTALLED.

SENATOR STONE. WHAT ABOUT THE ACTUAL GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATIONS, THE OIL EXPLORATIONS?

AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE. THERE HAVE BEEN NO FURTHER EXPLORATIONS WHICH CAUSED DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

SENATOR STONE. THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.
THE CHAIRMAN. SENATOR SARBANES.

SENATOR SARBANES. THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. I WANTED TO TALK ABOUT A COUPLE OF WHAT MIGHT BE PERCEIVED AS SECOND ORDER PROBLEMS, BUT I THINK THEY NEED TO BE THOUGHT ABOUT. ONE IS, IN 1976, THERE WERE 4 1/2 MILLION TOURISTS IN GREECE, HALF OF THE POPULATION OF THE COUNTRY. ALMOST 500,000 OF THEM WERE AMERICANS, SECOND ONLY TO WEST GERMANY. WE EARLIER WERE DISCUSSING IMPROVING THE CONSULAR SERVICES OF COUNTRIES IN THIS HEMISPHERE. I WONDER HOW ADEQUATELY STAFFED YOU FEEL THE EMBASSY IS WITH RESPECT TO THIS MAT-

TER AND WHAT CAN BE DONE.

FROM TIME TO TIME WE HEAR COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE SERVICES THAT ARE RECEIVED, AND ON INVESTIGATING IN SOME INSTANCES THE SERVICES EXPECTED ARE BEYOND THE BOUNDS OF WHAT OUGHT TO BE PROVIDED. BUT I THINK IN OTHER INSTANCES IT IS FAIR TO SAY THAT THE SERVICES THE EMBASSY IS PROVIDING HAVE NOT
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BEEN ADEQUATE AND THIS IS AN AREA IN WHICH THERE IS A SHARP ASCENDENCY IN VISITS. I WONDERED IF ANY THOUGHT HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THAT, AND IF IT HAS NOT, WHETHER SOME COULD BE AND WHAT MIGHT BE DONE ABOUT IT.

AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE. IT IS SOMETHING TO WHICH I HAVE ALREADY GIVEN A LOOK, FAIRLY SUPERFICIAL, I MUST ADMIT, MAINLY BECAUSE I PREFER TO WITHHOLD ANY JUDGMENTS UNTIL I AM ON THE SPOT. BUT IN MY 27 YEARS IN THIS BUSINESS I HAVE SEEN BOTH ENDS OF THE SPECTRUM, WHERE THE GOVERNMENT, OUR OWN GOVERNMENT, OR ITS REPRESENTATIVES, HAVE NOT ALWAYS PROVIDED THE SERVICES WHICH IT SHOULD. I HAVE ALSO SEEN AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO DEMAND MUCH MORE IN THE WAY OF SERVICES THAN WE COULD EVER HOPE TO PROVIDE.

I THINK THERE CAN BE AND SHOULD BE A GENERAL UNDERSTANDING ON WHAT THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT CAN PROVIDE IN THE WAY OF SERVICES TO AMERICAN CITIZENS IN GREECE. WHETHER THE CONSULAR SECTIONS, FOR INSTANCE, IN ATHENS OR THESSALONIKI ARE ADEQUATELY STAFFED AT THIS POINT, I DON'T KNOW. I WILL BE LOOKING INTO THAT WHEN I GET THERE.

ONE OF THE PROBLEMS, OF COURSE, PARTICULARLY IN GREECE, IS THE ATTRACTION OF THE ISLANDS. THIS MEANS THAT AMERICAN TOURISTS IN GREECE ARE VERY WIDESPREAD AND COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORTATION ARE NOT ALWAYS THE EASIEST IN ORDER TO SOLVE ANY PROBLEMS. BUT CERTAINLY THIS PARTICULAR QUESTION, EVEN THOUGH YOU HAVE CHARACTERIZED IT AS SECONDARY, IS ONE THAT IS HIGH ON MY LIST OF PRIORITIES.

SENATOR SARBANES. 500,000 AMERICANS VISITING IS OBVIOUSLY A VERY LARGE NUMBER. I THINK IT MAY JUSTIFY IN THIS INSTANT SORT OF UNUSUAL ARRANGEMENTS TO SERVICE THEM THAT DO NOT ALWAYS CHARACTERIZE WHAT WE PROVIDE IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

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IN THAT REGARD, THERE ARE PROBLEMS THAT ARISE FROM TIME TO TIME BECAUSE OF THE NATURE OF GREEK LAW WITH RESPECT TO CITIZENSHIP INVOLVING AMERICANS OF GREEK ORIGIN. THOSE WERE PARTICULARLY MARKED IN 1974. I AM NOT SURE THAT THOSE HAVE BEEN FULLY RESOLVED. I THINK THAT IS ANOTHER MATTER THAT NEEDS TO BE GIVEN SOME ATTENTION.

AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELLE. I HAVE TO ADMIT, IN ALL HONESTY, SENATOR, THAT I HAVE NOT LOOKED INTO THAT QUESTION, ALTHOUGH I AM AWARE OF IT. I DID GET SOME INSIGHT INTO IT IN 1974, WHEN SOME OF THESE PROBLEMS AROSE WHEN I WAS IN NEW YORK. BUT CERTAINLY, I ALSO AGREE WITH YOU THAT THIS IS SOMETHING THAT WE HAVE TO LOOK INTO BECAUSE OF THE POSSIBLE CONFLICTS OF DUAL CITIZENSHIP OR AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO HAD AN EARLIER NATIONALITY. THESE ARE PROBLEMS THAT ARISE NOT ONLY IN GREECE, BUT ELSEWHERE.

I THINK THAT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE GREEK COMMUNITY IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE IMPORTANCE THAT IT ATTACHES TO OUR RELATIONS WITH GREECE DICTATE THAT WE DO TAKE A HARD LOOK AT IT. I WILL BE DOING JUST THAT.

SENATOR SARBANES. NOW THE KEY TO RESOLVING THE CYPRUS ISSUE IS BRINGING NORMAL RELATIONS BACK TO THE AREA. THERE ARE OBVIOUSLY OTHER VERY IMPORTANT MATTERS, INCLUDING THE AEGEAN, AS IT INVOLVES GREECE AND TURKEY. THOSE ISSUES HAVE A VERY HIGH LEGAL CONTENT TO THEM. IN FACT, GREECE HAS SUGGESTED GOING TO THE INTERNATIONAL COURT WITH RESPECT TO THEM. I WONDERED HOW STAFFED YOU ARE WITH LEGAL PEOPLE IN THE EMBASSY?

AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELLE. WE ARE NOT STAFFED, PER SE, BY PEOPLE WHO ARE THERE FOR LEGAL PURPOSES, ALTHOUGH THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE ON THE STAFF WHO HAVE LEGAL TRAINING.

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GENERALLY IN SUCH SITUATIONS WE RELY ON WASHINGTON AGENCIES TO PROVIDE US LEGAL ASSISTANCE, EITHER IN THE FORM OF COMMUNICATIONS OR BY SENDING PEOPLE TO THE POST.

CERTIANLY, IF IT IS NECESSARY, AT ANY GIVEN TIME I WILL REQUEST, AND I AM SURE THE REQUEST WOULD BE GRANTED, THAT LEGAL PEOPLE BE ASSIGNED TO THE STAFF, AT LEAST TEMPORARILY. BUT THESE PROBLEMS ARE SO COMPLEX AND SO COMPARTMENTALIZED IN MANY RESPECTS IN TERMS OF LEGAL EXPERTISE, THAT IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO HAVE ONE OR TWO LAWYERS ON THE STAFF WHO COULD HANDLE EVERYTHING.

IN MY EXPERIENCE, BY AND LARGE OVER THE YEARS, THE RELIANCE OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE ON THE LEGAL EXPERTISE, EITHER IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT OR IN OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, HAS BEEN SATISFACTORY. BUT I WILL CERTAINLY ALSO RELY ON THE LEGAL KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE OF THOSE PEOPLE ON MY STAFF WHO HAVE IT.

SENATOR SARBANES. I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST, SINCE THE AEGEAN ISSUES ARE OF SUCH GREAT IMPORTANCE AND HAVE SUCH A LEGAL CONTENT TO THEM, THAT YOU MIGHT REALLY WANT TO CONSIDER IN STAFFING THE EMBASSY HAVING SOMEONE OR A COUPLE

OF PEOPLE WITH PARTICULAR EXPERTISE OR A REAL ABILITY IN INTERNATIONAL LEGAL MATTERS. I ALSO WOULD LIKE TO ADD TO THAT THE SUGGESTION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF ECONOMIC SPECIALISTS IN VIEW OF THE NEGOTIATIONS NOW PROCEEDING BETWEEN GREECE AND THE COMMON MARKET FOR ITS ENTRY, WHICH NOW SEEMS ASSURED IN PRINCIPLE AND A MATTER OF BEING WORKED OUT IN DETAIL AND TIMING. THIS, AGAIN, IS A MATTER OF EXTREME IMPORTANCE TO THEM, AND TO US, AS IT AFFECTS OUR ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS.

AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELLE. I WILL CERTAINLY LOOK AT THE LEGAL SITUATION VERY CLOSELY, SENATOR. I CERTAINLY AGREE WITH
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YOU ABOUT ECONOMICS. I THINK WE HAVE A STRONG ECONOMIC STAFF. I HAVE DONE A FAIR AMOUNT OF READING OVER THE LAST FEW DAYS ON ECONOMICS IN GENERAL IN GREECE, AND I CONCUR WITH YOUR OPINION THAT THIS IS AN IMPORTANT ISSUE. THE GREEK GOVERNMENT HAS A GOOD RECORD IN ITS ECONOMIC POLICIES. THE AGREEMENT WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY BE NEGOTIATED BETWEEN GREECE AND THE COMMON MARKET IS AN IMPORTANT ONE, NOT ONLY

FOR GREECE AND THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMON MARKET, BUT I ALSO THINK FOR US AS WELL.

SENATOR SARBANES. THE ONLY FINAL POINT I WANT TO MAKE IS TO ECHO SENATOR PELL'S POINT ABOUT THE BURDEN, IN A SENSE, THAT YOU WILL HAVE TO CARRY WITH RESPECT TO THE US ROLE IN THE SEVEN YEARS OF THE JUNTA. I THINK THAT UNDERSCORES THE IMPORTANCE OF DOING WHAT WE CAN TO STRENGTHEN DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN GREECE AND TO INSURE THAT IT IMPROVES AND STRENGTHENS AND CONTINUES AS A VIABLE DEMOCRATIC NATION. I THINK THAT IS OBVIOUSLY VERY IMPORTANT AND VERY FUNDAMENTAL.

AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELLE. CERTAINLY I AGREE WITH YOU ON THAT, SENATOR. I THINK THAT THAT IS ONE OF THE MAJOR POINTS OR THREADS THAT RUNS THROUGH THE WHOLE POLICY OF THIS ADMINISTRATION.

SENATOR SARBANES. THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. I WISH AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELLE WELL IN HIS VERY SENSITIVE MISSION.

THE CHAIRMAN. SENATOR BIDEN.
SENATOR BIDEN. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MR. CHAIRMAN.

MR. AMBASSADOR, I APOLOGIZE FOR BEING LATE. IF WHAT I AM ABOUT TO ASK YOU HAS ALREADY BEEN ASKED, PLEASE SO INDICATE
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AND I WILL READ THE RECORD.

HAS THERE BEEN ANY DISCUSSION ABOUT THE AEGEAN DISPUTE AT ALL? HAVE YOU GOTTEN INTO THAT?

AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELLE. SOMEWHAT, YES.

SENATOR BIDEN. I SEE.

WE FOCUSED A GREAT DEAL IN THIS CONGRESS ON CYPRUS, AND WITH SOME DEGREE OF JUSTIFICATION. IT HAS BEEN THE LINCHPIN FOR A NUMBER OF FOREIGN POLICY DECISIONS THAT THE CONGRESS HAS MADE AND TAKEN AND HAS HAD A NUMBER OF CONSEQUENCES.

I AM CONCERNED THAT THE REAL THREAT TO PEACE IN THAT AREA OF THE WORLD IS THE POTENTIAL DISPUTE AND ERUPTION OF THE DISPUTE BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY OVER THE AEGEAN.

CAN YOU COMMENT ON THAT GENERAL ASSESSMENT, WHETHER YOU THINK IT IS AS MUCH OF A SERIOUSLY POTENTIAL AREA FOR CONFLICT AS IT APPEARS? WHAT DO YOU SEE HAPPENING THERE?

AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE. I AGREE WITH YOU, SENATOR, THAT THE CYPRUS DISPUTE IS A COMPLEX ONE, WHICH HAS BEEN INTERNATIONALIZED OVER THE YEARS AND WHICH INVOLVES A THIRD COUNTRY, NAMELY CYPRUS. THE PEACE-KEEPING EFFORT THAT HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN BY THE UNITED NATIONS HAS BEEN A CONTRIBUTING FACTOR IN BRINGING THAT PARTICULAR DISPUTE CLOSER TO RESOLUTION.

THE AEGEAN, ESSENTIALLY, IS A BILATERAL DISPUTE BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY. THE PROBLEM IS DUE IN PART TO AN UNUSUAL ARRANGEMENT OF GEOGRAPHY.

GREECE OWNS TERRITORY VERY CLOSE TO THE TURKISH COAST.
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THIS OWNERSHIP IS BASED ON LONG-STANDING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS. IF THAT PARTICULAR DISPUTE CANNOT BE URGED ALONG ON THE WAY TO SETTLEMENT, THEN IT COULD INDEED BECOME VERY SERIOUS.

SO, WE ATTACH THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO THE CONTINUING EFFORTS OF BOTH THE GREEK AND TURKISH GOVERNMENTS TO GET AT THE AEGEAN DISPUTE AND SEE IF THEY CAN RESOLVE IT. IT MAY BE THAT IT CANNOT BE DONE " IN ONE FELL SWOOP"; IT MAY BE A SITUATION WHICH WILL BE RESOLVED PIECEMEAL. BUT, AS FAR AS I CAN SEE, THE GREEK GOVERNMENT IS CERTAINLY DEDICATED TO TRYING TO FIND A SOLUTION BY THE NEGOTIATION ROUTE, INCLUDING THE INTERNATIONAL COURT.

SENATOR BIDEN. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
I HAVE NO FURTHER QUESTIONS, MR. CHAIRMAN.

THE CHAIRMAN. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MR. SCHAUFLE. WE

APPRECIATE YOUR ANSWERING OUR QUESTIONS. WE COMMEND YOU AND WE CONGRATULATE YOU.

AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE. THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. END TEXT.
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